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UNH Students Make a Difference during Spring Break

By [Kim Billings](#)
UNH News Bureau

DURHAM, N.H. -- Beginning on Saturday through next week, more than 100 University of New Hampshire students will take part in Alternative Break Challenge at 10 Habitat for Humanity sites throughout the country. Rather than the traditional spring break of rest and relaxation, these students are giving up a week off to help others.

Now in its sixth year, Alternative Break Challenge (ABC) sends out teams of students to do construction work, from shingling roofs on homes being refurbished to actual new home construction. "It's a great opportunity for students to volunteer in communities all over the place," notes Clint Stoevers, hall director of Hunter Hall, who serves as staff advisor for the project. "It's not just about learning how to shingle a roof or pour a foundation. It's really about giving back to communities and working as a team to accomplish something really meaningful to someone."

Last year, about 1,500 UNH students were involved in volunteer work and public service, though Marianne Fortescue, UNH student life program assistant, estimates there could be four times that many. Statistics are based on responses from only 10 student organizations, and not on individual service projects.

This year's Alternative Break Challenge sites are in Ohio, Georgia, Virginia, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Alabama, Florida and Mississippi.

March 7, 2000

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